

## California Monthly Climate Summary September 2006

### **Summary**

September 2006 enters the books as a swing month. The beginning of the month saw triple digit temperatures in the state swinging down to record cold temperatures in the high 30s and low 40s in the middle to latter parts of the month. Fall arrived on September 22 at 21:03 Pacific Daylight Time. Statewide there were 53 temperature records tied or broken for the month with 45 of these being for daily low maxima or daily low minima.

The signature record for the month belongs to Eureka which accomplished a new double record on September 23. For the first time since climate records have been kept for Eureka dating back to 1887, Eureka set a new high temperature of 82 (6 degrees higher than the previous record set in 1946) and a new low temperature of 42 (tying the record set in 1913) on the same day.

Notable rainfall events for the month include 0.62 inches at Big Bear Lake, 1.44 inches in Blythe and 1.72 inches at Idyllwild Fire Department which was the maximum precipitation recorded for the month in the co-operative network. The statewide average precipitation for the month was 0.06 inches of rain with only 23% of the stations in the National Weather Service's cooperative network reporting precipitation. Climatology for August shows 0.54 inches of rain for the 1971-2000 averages. Additional precipitation statistics are shown in the table below.

The El Nino/Southern Oscillation is being classified as a weak/moderate El Nino episode. Equatorial sea surface temperatures are continuing to develop positive anomalies (warmer than normal values). El Nino conditions are expected for the rest of the year and into spring of 2007. Further discussion can be found at [http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis\\_monitoring/enso\\_advisory/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/). ENSO conditions along with current trends indicate a warmer than average remainder of the year for California. Fall precipitation for California is expected to be above average. Long-range precipitation and temperature outlook plots can be found at: <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/longrang/>. General weather information of interest can be found at <http://www.noaawatch.gov/>.

For anomaly information please see [http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/anom/cal\\_anom.html](http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/anom/cal_anom.html).

Crop harvests continue. Cotton harvests are expected to total 1460 thousand bales for both American Pima and Upland. This is about 20% below last season. The total state grape harvest for all varieties is expected to be 5.75 million tons which is down about 18% from last season. Grape quality has been recorded as excellent so far. The California Orange crop is expected to be 92 million cartons which is about 20% below last season. The Navel orange harvest is expected to be late this year. The dried plum harvest is expected to be 170 thousand dried tons which is up 89% from last years heat damaged crop. This year's dried plum crop is also expected to be low due to rains during the spring bloom. For further crop information, please see <http://www.nass.usda.gov/index.asp>

## **Other Climate Summaries**

[California Climate Watch \(DRI\)](#)

[Golden Gate Weather Service Climate Summary](#)

[NOAA Monthly State of the Climate Report](#) (September)

## **Statewide Extremes**

High Temperature – 113 deg F (Cauhillia, Colorado Desert)

Low Temperature - 14 deg F (Crestview and Crabtree Meadow)

High Precipitation – 1.72 inches (Idyllwild Fire Department)

Low Precipitation –0 inches (many sites)

## **Statewide Precipitation Statistics**

Hydrologic Region	Region Weight	Basins Reporting			Stations Reporting			Percent of Historic Average	
		Basins	Sep	Oct-Sep	Stations	Sep	Oct-Sep	Sep	Oct-Sep
NORTH COAST	0.27	5	5	4	19	12	8	8.5%	155.0%
SAN FRANCISCO BAY	0.03	2	2	2	6	5	4	0%	158.0%
CENTRAL COAST	0.06	3	3	3	11	6	5	0%	137.0%
SOUTH COAST	0.06	3	3	2	15	13	5	9.0%	74.0%
SACRAMENTO RIVER	0.26	5	5	5	43	14	12	0.1%	148.0%
SAN JOAQUIN RIVER	0.12	6	5	4	25	9	7	0%	140.0%
TULARE LAKE	0.07	5	4	4	28	12	10	2.0%	130.0%
NORTH LAHONTAN	0.04	3	3	3	14	7	6	0%	137.0%
SOUTH LAHONTAN	0.06	3	3	3	15	8	8	136.5%	99.0%
COLORADO RIVER	0.03	1	1	1	6	3	2	168.1%	82.0%
STATEWIDE WEIGHTED AVERAGE	1.00	36	34	31	182	89	67	16.2%	137.5%

## **Statewide Mean Temperature Data by Hydrologic Region (degrees F)**

Hydrologic Region	No. Stations	Minimum	Average	Maximum
North Coast	31	52.2	62.2	72.6
SF Bay	17	55.9	63.2	74.7
Central Coast	34	53.3	62.4	74.5
South Coast	66	60.9	70.9	77.8
Sacramento	89	51.1	65.4	78.6
San Joaquin	73	29.7	64.9	82.5
Tulare Lake	17	42.2	56.8	82.9
North Lahontan	28	47.0	53.2	63.3
South Lahontan	24	44.9	61.8	83.9
Colorado River	24	69.8	83.4	95.2
Statewide Weighted Average	403	49.1	63.8	77.6